

PVRC NEWSLETTER - SEPTEMBER 2000

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS: HRO and THE RF CONNECTION
The paper edition was posted at Arnold MD at 1:41pm 8/31/00

PVRC CALENDAR

Weekly Wed
BWI Regional weekly breakfast. Wednesdays 7:30 am,
Basil's Deli, Elkridge Landing Rd near BWI.

Monthly
Over-the-Hill Luncheon. TBA. See reference page.

Sep 7 Thu
PVRC/NC meeting at Ryans.

Se 9/10 Sa/Su
ARRL VHF QSO Party. A 5 mil award and club competition contest.

Sep 11 Mon
Central meeting (first fall meeting) at Maryland location.
See reference page.

Sep 19 Tue
Northwest meeting night. See reference page.

Sep 19 Tue
Tidewater Colony meeting night. See reference page.

Sep 23/24 Sa/Su
Virginia Beach Hamfest, VA Beach Pavilion, VA Beach, VA.
Talk-in 146.970-. Info at www.vahamfest.com

Sep 24 Sun
PVRC meeting TBA. FARfest2000 at Prince Georges Stadium, Bowie, MD
Talk-in 147.105+ and 146.520. FAR contact is [\[email protected\]](mailto:).

PVRC ANNUAL ELECTIONS by Brian McGinnes, N3OC, President

I am happy to report that PVRC trustee Bill, N3RR has agreed to handle the nominations for the October elections again this year.

PVRC by-laws require a (non-officer) member of the Board of Trustees to propose a slate of nominations at the September meeting. Elections are held at the October meeting.

This year we will be voting at ALL regional meetings in October, not just the central one. That way everyone gets a say. I have not worked out the exact logistics of this yet, but if you are the regional coordinator in your area, expect to hear from me soon with some mechanism of reporting your votes in a timely manner.

If anyone, in any region, is interested in running for PVRC office (president, vice-president, secretary or treasurer) please contact N3RR ASAP and let him know. You can reach Bill via packet, email at [\[email protected\]](mailto:) or his home phone is 301-424-2707.

As far as I know, the current officers wish to continue into next year. If you wish to be nominated also, contact Bill.

If you are interested in the future, the option to run in upcoming years will always exist. We have opened this process up to all the regions so everyone has a vote, and we are encouraging those in the outlying regions to consider being a club officer, if not now then certainly in upcoming years. Thank you.

PVRC PRESIDENT'S REPORT SEPT 2000 by Brian McGinnes, N3OC,
President

Hello everyone! I have had a very busy summer, so I haven't had as much time for PVRC over the last couple months. Your club officers are working on a number of projects, and I would like to give you an update on them.

First, as you will read elsewhere in this newsletter, the annual elections are coming up. N3RR has again volunteered to manage the election. Thank you Bill! If you are interested in running for office, be sure and contact N3RR ASAP.

This year we will be sending ballots to the regions so they may vote at their October meetings. I know some groups we call regions actually attend other region's meetings, so we will take that into account, and only send ballots to the regions that regularly schedule meetings. I am still working on this. At the moment I plan on sending ballots to the Northwest, North Carolina, Tidewater, SWVA, Central VA, and PA regions. If your region was not listed, and you want ballots and plan a meeting, please let me know soon.

The annual holiday dinner is fast approaching. My plan at this time is to use the Olive Garden in Tyson's Corner again. This year I want to obtain a small PA system to help those in the back hear the presentation. There are numerous awards to be given out, including 30 new 5m award plaques, 15 5m award endorsements, and 5 club competition gavels.

I have been asked to place another badge order. If you want a PVRC badge, please make out a check to PVRC for \$7 (\$5 if you pick up at a central meeting) and send it to my callbook address. I will order the badges in mid-September, with an anticipated delivery of mid-October.

PVRC has received correspondence from the Order of the Boiled Owls, asking our support for a rule change effort. This proposed rule change would allow someone who is a member of a smaller club to submit scores in ARRL contests for both a small and large club

(like PVRC).

This does effect PVRC, as I'm sure a lot of you that have been giving PVRC your score would like to be able to count it for your local club also. If you have any input on this matter please contact me or any of the other officers (K4VV, W2GG, WR3L) or board members (N3RR, K3MM, KE3Q).

The fall contest season officially starts this month with the CQWW RTTY contest 9/22-9/24. (OK, OK, there was a VHF contest in there somewhere too...) Remember when you submit a score for PVRC in major contests that have club competition, you are automatically getting points toward your PVRC 5 million award - kind of like frequent flyer miles. This award has been very popular. It is a very sharp looking plaque with the color PVRC logo on it.

And as always, I keep reminding everyone that we lost the sweepstakes last year by a very small margin - one or two logs. Please get on and give us your score, no matter how small, and we can be on top again!

GO PVRC !

A NEW CONTEST SEASON BEGINS! by Bob Dannals, W2GG

The ARRL VHF QSO Party is the first PVRC 5M event of the new contest season. The contest starts on Saturday, September 9th at 1800 UTC and ends on Monday, September 11th at 0300 UTC (that's Saturday 2 PM local time through Sunday night 11 PM). The rules appear in QST and on the ARRL website (<http://www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/rules-09vhf.html>) and (<http://www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/rules-vhf.html>).

If you have anything that operates on the bands above 50 MHz, please get on the air for an hour, a couple of hours, while you're in the car going shopping, going to the football game, going to and from church, during halftimes (on Saturday and Sunday), and make a few contacts. The exchange is simple; it's your grid location (e.g., FM19).

Got packet? Find the mike to that packet radio and make a few voice contacts (check 146.55, AVOID 146.52!). Got an HT? Take a brief trip to the local high spot and make a few contacts! Got a new transceivers with 2 and 6 (and 432!) built-in? This is the weekend to try it out.

Every contact helps the cause. And remember to listen for other PVRCers from last year, K8GP, K3MQH, W3YOZ, ND3F, K3DNE, K2UOP/8, W4RX, and K3ZO (just to name a few).

And MOST OF ALL, remember to send in the log and mark it for the Potomac Valley Radio Club ! ! Good luck!

TREASURERS REPORT by Dave Baugher, WR3L, Treasurer [\[email protected\]](mailto:).

I would like to thank the following for the donations over the summer: K9GY, AJ3M, W3OQ, N3ND, W3UJ, N3UM, K1HTV, WF3J, W0GG, W2GG, WJ1R, KH6DL, W3FYH, and W3AZD. The treasury is now \$3400 with all the bills paid and accounts receivable current. I keep the receivable on a 6 month basis with the exception of donations that are welcome any time. Of this money I will set aside \$1200 for the 5 million awards. This leaves \$2200 for expenses.

Your donations are needed and appreciated but lets not forget the purpose of the club. Your scores and participation in the contests are just as important as the money it takes to run the club. Think about the coming season and keep operating dates open. My station and others need operators if you don't have a rig. Lets make the club #1 in as many contests as possible. I will be looking to your ARRL renewals, donations, scores (to W2GG) and support as will be running as treasurer for another term. (Please note Dave's new email address. - editor)

PVRC CARROLL COUNTY MEETING MINUTES 7/30 by Jim Nitzberg, WX3B

In Attendance: (Members): Jim Nitzberg, WX3B, Bill Long, NY3M, John Chesley, AK3Z, and Dan Flannagan, W3DF. (Guests): Steve Sluz, NY3A, Steve Scheinberg, W3SY, and Rich Suvall, N3JIA

In a spontaneous event of timing and luck, an ad-hoc PVRC meeting quickly emerged on Saturday night when Steve, W3SY shared his past sweepstakes with Jim and mentioned interested in Joining PVRC. The group of four which regularly meet quickly mushroomed and we held a meeting at Jim's house Saturday at 9:00. I apologize for not getting the word to all members - and we should have another meeting in August!

Steve Scheinberg, W3SY sports a great contest QTH in Jarrottsville, MD (i.e. acreage!) where he runs a horizontal loop several hundred feet in length. Steve affectionately refers to this antennas as his "Pileup Buster". We welcomed Steve into meeting #1 for PVRC membership and have high hopes for his contributions later this year when contest season begins.

Another interesting turn of events is occurring with another PVRC guest (soon to be member, we hope!). Steve Sluz, NY3A has just purchased an amplifier. And in true amateur spirit, Steve claims he will hardly ever use the amplifier. Perhaps what he really meant is that he'll only use the amplifier when he's contesting. Steve must become a PVRC member soon - he's been to at least 6 PVRC meetings by now - and we need his scores!!!

Rich Suvall, N3JIA is another PVRC recruit and contesteer. He has participated in numerous contests with the Carroll County Amateur Radio club and normally does the hard work associated with generator duty during our field days. Rich also has a very precious gift - he can be the 2nd operator at a contest position - and actually HELP when he's logging for you. Rich's ears must contain a built-in DSP.

Bill Long, NY3M has admitted to enjoying SSB operation several

times - for the first time in over six years. He was actually heard working DX on 20 meters several weeks ago. At one point, Bill bragged that he still had the microphone hooked up to the radio - days after the initial SSB contacts were made. It is true that Bill truly prefers CW - and his large tribander at 100 feet does a great job on either mode.

Jim Nitzberg, WX3B has safely returned from the Mini-DXpedition in Orlando Florida. In addition to working some Disney rides, Jim made contact with PVRC members back home on 14.200. The highlight contact from Florida was a phone QSO with our President Brian, FS/N3OC from St. Martin. Brian emerged from the RTTY pileup he was running long enough for a quick hello and 5x9+ signal report into Orlando. Thanks to Barry, K3UG for the assistance in getting Brian's attention.

Dan Flannagan, W3DF wins the award for "tuning the band" and turning up rare DX - WX3B/4 without the assistance of any packet spotting networks. And with 100 watts and a dipole, he rang in the largest low power signal of the evening. It is true that his new Kenwood TS-870 and D-104 microphone sounds great on SSB. Dan is planning to spring an AB/577 on his XYL someday - but he's not sure when the timing will be right!

John Chesley, AK3Z had a permanent smile on his face. No - it wasn't the P5 that we've all been waiting for, it was the sale of his Henry Amp. Of course, the amplifier was in tip top operating condition when it was sold - and it was harder to tell who was happier, the excited buyer, or John! It was a little bit like the happiest days of boat ownership: The day you buy it, and the day you sell it. John is saving his money for an Alpha 99, a nice cool, quiet, and relatively light amplifier! Also, John has been concentrating on summertime activities - but will get serious about radio when the bicycling season is over. This includes putting up his stockpiled KLM beams that he has in his house.

The spirit and conversation of the evening revolved around building our stations. Steve, W3SY has ordered an AB/577 and anxiously awaits putting a Yagi up at 50 feet. Jim, WX3B is looking forward to adding a Drake L-4B to his 2nd (Low Band) operating position. Bill Long, NY3M was seen departing the WX3B shack with a Yaesu FT-1000MP on loan - and you know what that means. There will probably be an MP in Bill's future. We congratulated Rich, N3JIA on his new job, and hope that this job will allow him to stay closer to home.

Of course anyone who knows Jim, WX3B understands that a good meeting is not complete without operating the radios - and that evening sported the IOTA contest.

Steve, W3SY quickly generated an unreasonable pileup on 20 meters - with Dan, W3DF as the logger. We also tried some QRP work - and Dan, W3DF one the award: working an Africa station with 10 watts into a "resonant" 80 meter coax fed dipole loaded on 20 meters. Several other European and African stations were worked

for fun with 5 watts into a Carolina windom on 20 meters.

Many thanks to all of you who have supported the Carroll County PVRC group. We now have 10 PVRC members and 7 future PVRC members who are on my mailing list. If you live in or near Carroll County, and would like to be kept informed of our events, please give me a call or send me an email at [\[email protected\]](mailto:). Less than 3 months to go until CQWW/SSB!!

NW MEETING MINUTES by Ed Steeble, K3IXD

The August PVRC NW Regional meeting was attended by Bob, W8ZA; John, N8UM; and Ed, K3IXD. We had an enjoyable dinner and chat that ranged from HF to VHF to vacations to upcoming plans for the fall. Both Bob and John brought pictures of their impressive antenna installations. (This may be N8UM's fourth meeting, maybe one of the other regions can vote on his application.)

AUGUST OTH LUNCHEON by Ben Shaver, AA4XU

The PVRC Over-The-Hill Lunch was held at Noon on August 23, 2000 at Main Street USA in Annandale, VA. The following attended: W4RX Jim Ahlgren, W3AZ Bill Leavitt, K7CMZ Mel Woods, W7HQC Howard Dempsey, N7PD Andrew Hawkins, K6ETM George Sinclair, W3CP Jim Headrick, W3ABC Hugh Turnbull, K3ZO Fred Laun, W4DM Dale Harris, W3ZZ Gene Zimmerman, W3CB Cliff Bedore, AA4XU Ben Shaver.

CVCC/PVRC SUMMER UPDATE by John Youell, WA4QDM

Summer CVCC/PVRC Picnic: The summer picnic was an open house at W4MYA on July 22nd. The attendees were: K1GG, K3ZO+, KA3CCE+, N3OC, N3PZV, N4DEN, W3Y0Z, WF3J, WR3Z, WX3B, K4EC, K4GAU, K4GMH, K4HOT+, K4IQ, K4JA, K4VUT, K4ZW, KF4QQY+, N4GU, NK4H, NR4M, UA6AN, W4HJ, W4HZ+, W4JAM, WA4QDM, WK4Y, WU4G, K7SV, W8ZA, and W0MAN. (Around 40 folks when you consider the kids & spouses).

Bob did a great job preparing a covered eating area and managed to arrange for a relatively mild WX day for the time of year; thanks, Bob! A very special thanks to Lilly and her crew for preparing the great lunch; a really super spread!

I think this was the first time I have seen all the seats in the new shack occupied (and no one was calling CQ)! We had pretty good geographic representation, with folks from Northern VA, Maryland, Fredricksburg, Lynchburg, the northern Neck (Callao), and the Richmond area. A good time was had by all.

Next year we can all check out Paul's (K4JA) new super station!

Packet Cluster info: As you probably know, we lost our Fredricksburg site and consequently, our packet link to the north. The club purchased a diamond antenna at the Manassas hamfest and dropped it off at Mike's (K4GMH) in Fredricksburg to experiment with a replacement path. That antenna was up about 2 weeks when it was by lightning!

We also have had suspected lightning damage to the "southside" 2 meter transceiver on 144.99 at KG4W's QTH. The 144.99 node has been moved to Jon's (W4HZ) QTH and is the replacement link to "southside". Thanks to Dennis (N4DEN), Jon (W4HZ), Bob (W4MYA) and Ronnie (WU4G) for their efforts in getting this node up and running. Hopefully, we will have a packet update at the September meeting.

W4DR presentation at DXVACC: Bob (W4DR) gave his "50 years of amateur radio" Power Point presentation to the VACC at Virginia Beach on August 15. (This is the presentation Bob did for the CVCC in early January of this year). I made the trip down there with Bob and helped out with the projection monitor and computer. They had a nice group of about 15 for dinner before the meeting and about 50; 60 for the presentation. Nice bunch of folks in the "Tidewater Colony" of the PVRC!

Preview of For Sale Items: W4MYA has a list of items he is going to take to the VA Beach Hamfest. If anyone is interested, give him a call or an e-mail. Two IC-751A (one with built in supply, one without), Down East Microwave 6M 70cm xverter 25w in 100w out 6M brick, FT 736R, FT650, two MLA2500, and a spare set of 8875's.

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Reverse Polarity (TNC, N, SMA), 39 coax types, and 5 balanced
lines.

THE PVRC REFERENCE PAGE.....PLEASE SEND CORRECTIONS TO K3DI

OFFICERS:

President N3OC Brian McGinness 301-652-6768 [(mailto:)].
Vice Pres K4VV Jack Hammett 703-281-1308 [(mailto:)].
Secretary W2GG Bob Dannals 410-472-2004 [(mailto:)].
Treasurer WR3L Dave Baugher 410-DX1-WR3L [(mailto:)].
Historian K3SA Steve Affens 301-774-0558 [(mailto:)].

PVRC Charter Members:

W3GRF (SK), W4AAV (SK), W4KFC (SK), N0FFZ (SK), W4LUE, W7YS,
VP2VI (W0DX), W3IKN, W4KFT.

PacketCluster Contest/DX System, MHz:

W3LPL	Glenwood MD	145.590	441.250
KE3Q	Bowie MD	145.570	445.375
WR3L	Baltimore MD	145.610	440.950
N3RR	Rockville MD	145.510	441.325
K3SKE	Frederick MD	144.930	
N4OHE	Mt. Weather VA	145.710	440.925
NE3H	Harrisburg PA	144.970	*
K3MQH	S Mountain PA	145.630	
N4SR	Woodbridge VA	145.630	*
K4FJ	Mt. Vernon VA	145.770	*
W4XP	Bull Run Mt "	144.990	

This system is sponsored by the Potomac Valley DX
Spotting Network except "*" are independently funded by each
SYSOP.

PVRC on Internet.

PVRC web site by K3SA:

<http://www.pvrc.org>

PVRC/NC web site by KS4XG

<http://www.pagesz.net/~pvrcnc>

PVRC reflector: (editor N4AF)

Get latest scores & activities info here

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PVRC dues and ARRL renewals:

The annual dues are by donation.

PVRC gets a cut from ARRL renewals sent via Dave Baugher,
WR3L, 615 Rockway Beach Ave, Baltimore, MD 21221. Dues and
renewal checks should be made to PVRC. Thank you.

Autocall column editor: Barry Thaysen, K3UG. 6619 Buffalo Rd, Mt
Airy, MD 21771

CENTRAL: The Central Meeting is always the second Monday (except
June, July, and August) at 7:30 pm. The central
meeting generally alternates between MD and VA locations. A
pre-meeting dinner is usually held between 5:00 and 6:30
pm. Check via 147- repeater.

VA LOCATION: The Patrick Henry (Public) Library, Route 123, Vienna, VA.

MD LOCATION: Church of the Nativity (Episcopal), Route 5, Temple Hills, MD. Pre-meeting dinner at Mama Stella's Italian Restraunt on Old Branch Ave.

NORTHWEST: Greg Altig NK3R 410-775-7313 [\[email protected\]](mailto:). Meets at 7:30 pm on the third Tuesday every month at Tully's Grill, 1080 W. Patrick St, Frederick, MD. Same center as Shoppers Food Warehouse. Essentially includes WVA area.

NORTH CAROLINA: Chair: Guy Olinger, K2AV; Sec: Pete Soper, KS4XG, [\[email protected\]](mailto:), hm: 919-362-4635, wk: 919-481-6874. Activites: Jim Stevens, K4MA. POC is K4MA & KS4XG. Howie Hoyt, N4AF, [\[email protected\]](mailto:) is PVRC reflector editor. PVRC/NC meets at 6:00 pm the first Thursday of every month at Ryan's Family Steakhouse at Crossroads in Cary.

TIDEWATER (VA) COLONY OF PVRC:

Don Lynch W4ZYT 757-486-0728 [\[email protected\]](mailto:). Meetings the 3rd Tuesday of every month are held jointly with the VA DXCC at The Golden Corral corner of Battlefield Blvd South and Volvo Pkwy in Chesapeake, VA. Easy access from I-64 at Rte 168 (Battlefield Blvd S) exit. Dinner at 1830 and meeting at 1925.

SOUTHWEST VA CHAPTER: Coordinator: John Mitchell, K4IQ, Catawba, VA 540-384-7377, [\[email protected\]](mailto:). Monthly meetings alternate between Roanoke area locations

THE BWI REGIONAL/PVRC: Weekly breakfast Wed at 7:30 AM at Basil's Deli Port on Elkrdige Landing Rd 1/4 mile South of Winterson Road 410-850-4333. Director: Ike Lawton, W3IKE, 410-263-2830. Secretary: Howard Leake, W6AXX, 410-465-7008, [\[email protected\]](mailto:).

OVER-THE-HILL LUNCH BUNCH: Rotating hosts announces meeting info. Ben Shaver, AA4XU, 703-534-4740, [\[email protected\]](mailto:), MainstreetUSA, Annandale; Andy Anderson, W3XE, 301-384-7771, [\[email protected\]](mailto:), Holiday Inn, College Park; and Bill Leavitt, W3AZ, 301-292-5797, Best Western, Oxon Hill

PENNSYLVANIA: Steve Cutshall, K3TZV, [\[email protected\]](mailto:), 717-763-0462.

RAPPAHANNOCK: Steve Bookout, NR4M (ex-NJ4F) [\[email protected\]](mailto:). Also, Larry Schimelpfenig, K7SV, [\[email protected\]](mailto:).

WOODBRIDGE: Jack O'Mara W4NF, [\[email protected\]](mailto:) H:703-791-3302 W:703-415-0200 x3018 and Cliff Deel W4CE, [\[email protected\]](mailto:) 703-491-0841

CENTRAL VA: Bob Morris, W4MYA 804-457-9011

 CVCC/PVRC monthly meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday at the First Mennonite Church on Staples Mill Rd at 7:30 PM. Optional 6PM-ish dinner at the Crazy Greek Rest, Staples Mill Rd. Talk-in is 145.430 MHz.

SOUTHERN MD: Chair: Barry Shapiro, WR3Z. H:301-862-2466 . Meetings to be held at the home of N1WR.

EASTERN-SHORE (DEL-MAR-VA): Dallas Carter, W3PP 302-875-0550 .

SHENANDOAH: Bill Hinkle KV3R 304-567-3138

NORTHEAST: WR3L See info above.

ANNAPOLIS CREW: K3DI. See editor info.

CARROLL COUNTY GROUP: Jim Nitzberg, WX3B. 410-374-9233 .

OTHER MEETINGS based on prior year(s):

May. Meeting at Dayton Hamvention
Jun. W3LPL open house Sat before Field Day. With joint FRC/PVRC meeting on alternate years. (2001, 2003, ...)
?? When joint FRC/PVRC is at FRC, they announce the date.
Jul. PVRC/NC cook out
Jul. Open house, W4MYA, Goochland,
Aug. NCDXA/PVRC Fowlfest at W3Y0Z
Sep. PVRC meeting at the FARfest Bowie
Sep. Open house, WR3L, Baltimore
Dec. Christmas dinner, DC area.

5 MILLION (CLUB COMPETITION) AWARD

Month and number of the full week end.

Jan 3 ARRL VHF Sweepstakes
Jan Last CQWW 160m CW
Feb 3 ARRL DX CW
Feb Last CQWW 160m SSB
Mar 1 ARRL DX SSB
Mar Last CQWW WPX SSB
May Last CQWW WPX CW
Sep 2 ARRL VHF QSO Party
Oct Last CQWW DX SSB
Nov 1 ARRL Sweepstakes CW
Nov 3 ARRL Sweepstakes SSB
Nov Last CQWW DX CW
Dec 1 ARRL 160m CW
Dec 2 ARRL 10m Mixed

Standings at <http://www.qsl.net/n4zr>
Roster updates at: <http://www.pvrc.org/pvrcmm98.htm>

Dick's lifetime address is .

